

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 STR-07 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-15 /111 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/GCP - D FINNERTY
APPROVED BY EB/OT/GCP - J SLATTERY
ARA/AND - W SARGENT
ARA/ECP - W BURSON
STR - JROSENBAUM
E - E JOHNSTON (SUBS)
-----126305 131725Z /72
P 131550Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, VE

SUBJECT:TRADE CONSULTATIONS WITH VENEZUELA

REFS: A) CARACAS 3000 B) CARACAS 3003
C) CARACAS 3380

1. AMBASSADOR WOLFF WILL BE TRAVELING TO BRAZIL DURING
THE SECOND WEEK OF MAY FOR A MEETING OF THE US-BRAZIL
SUBGROUP ON TRADE. VISIT TO VENEZUELA AS RECOMMENDED
IN REF B WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO SCHEDULE SINCE WOLFF
TENTATIVELY PLANS TO GO DIRECTLY TO MEXICO CITY FOR
MEETING OF US-MEXICO TRADE SUBGROUP.

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2. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY SUGGESTION FOR BRIEFING OF
SELA REPS, BUT MTN DISCUSSION IS ALREADY ON AGENDA OF
OAS CECON MEETING IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC DURING LAST WEEK
IN APRIL WITH HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATION EXPECTED FROM
MOST COUNTRIES. WE BELIEVE OAS IS PREFEREABLE FORUM
AND REQUEST EMBASSY URGE GOV TO SEND APPROPRIATE SENIOR

REPRESENTATION.

3. WE ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS ENCOURAGING
GOV ATTENTION TO MTN ISSUES. WHILE OFFICIALS IN CARACAS
HAVE BEEN RESPONSIVE, RECENT US VENEZUELAN BILATERAL

DISCUSSIONS ON MTN IN GENEVA WERE DISAPPOINTING.
IT IS APPARENT THAT GOV MTN INTEREST AS EXPRESSED IN
CARACAS IS NOT RECEIVING ADEQUATE SUPPORT IN GENEVA.
IN ADDITION, RECENT VENEZUELAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS
ARE OF SOME CONCERN TO USG. THESE MEASURES HAVE
CONSIDERABLE IMPACT ON OUR EXPORTS TO VENEZUELA
(PRINCIPALLY THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR). IT MAY ALSO
BE THAT THE EMERGING BOP DEFICIT MAKES THE GOV
RELUCTANT TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE MTN CONCESSIONS.
WE THEREFORE WELCOME THE VISIT OF REINALDO FIGUEREDO
AND WISH TO BROADEN DISCUSSION WITH UNDER SECRETARY
COOPER TO INCLUDE MTN ISSUES AND IF POSSIBLE
SCHEDULE MEETINGS WITH APPROPRIATE SENIOR TRADE
POLICY OFFICIALS. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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